

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully solicited.

Claims 1 through 3 and 5 through 14 are pending, with Claims 1, 11, and 12 being independent. Claim 4 has been cancelled without prejudice. Claims 1, 3, 5 through 7, and 10 have been amended. Claims 11 through 14 have been added.

Claim 10 was objected to for an informality. This objection is respectfully traversed, and is submitted to have been obviated by the amendment of the claim as kindly suggested in the Official Action.

Transmitted herewith are two replacement sheets of formal drawings comprising Figs. 11 through 14 with Figs. 12 through 14 having been labeled as --PRIOR ART--, as required in the Official Action.

Claims 1 and 8 through 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 over newly-cited U.S. Patent No. 5,150,146 (Ueda, et al.). Claims 2 through 7 were objected to and indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form. All rejections and objections are respectfully traversed, and are submitted to have been obviated by:

- (a) the amendment of Claim 1 to include the features of objected-to Claim 4; and
- (b) the addition of Claims 11 and 12, which were formulated upon the basis of objected-to Claims 2 and 7 respectively,

with minor formal changes having been made to the aforementioned claims.

The dependent claims are also submitted to be patentable because they set forth additional aspects of the present invention and are dependent from independent claims discussed above. Therefore, separate and individual consideration of each dependent claim is respectfully requested.

Applicant submits that this application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Daniel S. Glueck", is written over a horizontal line.

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